

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ASA COMPETITION BY-LAWS RE SWIMSUITS

The Following guidelines are presented for adoption from January 1st 2010. These rules are a 'common sense' application of the FINA Rules, designed to create consistency but also to ensure that our swimmers are not burdened with excessive additional cost associated with replacement of all existing inventory of obviously compliant swimwear.

General Swimsuit Guidelines

(1) The swimsuits of all swimmers shall be in good moral taste and suitable for the individual sports discipline.

(2) All swimsuits shall be non transparent and must conform with FINA approved standards in all respects.

The above guideline constitutes a definition of FINA Approved Swimsuits,

or

(3) Until otherwise directed by ASA, swimmers may wear traditional swimsuits provided the suits meet the following criteria:

(i) Mens swimwear is limited to one (1) swimsuit that covers at most the body surface from navel to knee. Swimwear may not extend above the navel or below the knees;

(ii) Womens swimwear is limited to one (1) swimsuit that is of "open back" and "open shoulder" designs that may extend down to the knee. Swimwear must not extend below the knees.

Swimwear must not have a zipper or any type of fastening devices except for a waist tie on Men's traditional swimsuits.

(iii) Suits must be of textile material and must not contain any non-textile material such as polyurethane or neoprene.

(4) The referee of a competition has the authority to exclude any competitor whose swimsuit does not comply with this rule.

(5) Swimwear is limited to one (1) swimsuit.

This Guideline (3) – (5) constitutes ASA approval of Swimwear, but not FINA Approved Swimsuits.

Additional Swimsuit Guidelines for Age Group Events

(1) All swimwear worn by competitors in Age Group Events (18 and under) conducted in Auckland by ASA shall be commercially available products.

In Addition,

(2) Swimwear worn by competitors in Age Group Events shall conform to the following design:

(i) Men's swimwear is limited to one (1) swimsuit that covers at most the body surface from navel to knee. Swimwear may not extend above the navel or below the knees;

(ii) Women's swimwear is limited to one (1) swimsuit that is of "open back" and "open shoulder" designs that may extend down to the knee. Swimwear must not extend below the knees. Swimwear must not have a zipper or any type of fastening devices except for a waist tie on traditional swimsuits.

(iii) Suits must be of textile material and must not contain any non-textile material such as polyurethane or neoprene.

The **General Swimsuit Guideline and the **Guideline for Age group Events** are similar, but allows competitors to wear swimsuits that conform to 2010 FINA guidelines that have not been submitted to FINA for approval.*

These Rules are to apply to all meets sanctioned by Swimming Auckland.

Implementing the New Swimsuit Rules

These Championship By-Laws have been updated to fall into line with the recent swimsuit rule changes made by FINA. The list of FINA approved suits for 2010 can be found at the link below:

http://www.fina.org/project/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2688&Itemid=9

This list is not all-inclusive and is not the final list. As additional suits are approved, they will be added to the list by FINA, so it is recommended to revisit this site regularly if you are in doubt. Please note that in some cases the suit models on FINA's list have the same name as previously manufactured suits which do not meet the new technical swimsuit requirements. Before purchasing any of the suits on the list, be sure to ask if the suit is the new model which meets the new requirements. New suits will also be tagged as FINA approved swimsuits and only those suits bearing this tag will be considered FINA approved by ASA. In addition to the FINA approved swimsuits, these By-Laws allow the use of "traditional swimsuits" provided the suits meet the criteria mentioned in the By-Laws.

Age Group Events

In addition to the FINA approved list, the swimsuit guidelines for age group events allow competitors to wear swimsuits that have not been approved by FINA provided they meet the guidelines relating to textile material, fastening devices and coverage.

Records

ASA open records will only be ratified if performed in a FINA approved swimsuit. The procedure for ratification of an ASA Open Record is to be revised with a record application form which will require a declaration relating to the make and model of the suit to be lodged for approval. ASA age group records will only be able to be ratified if performed in a swimsuit that meets the guidelines outlined in above for Age Group Events. The ASA record application forms will be revised and will require a declaration relating to the make and model of the suit to be lodged for approval.

Qualifying Times

Any official qualifying time achieved since 1 January 2009 can be used regardless of the suit worn.

If you have any questions in relation to swimsuits at Swimming Auckland events, please contact Jill Vernon, (09) 8347924, vernonfamily@xtra.co.nz. If you have queries relating to swimsuits at ASA sanctioned events, please contact the ASA office on (09) 448 1480 or info@akswim.co.nz